

—8—

Response:

The applicant appreciates the examination by the examiner.

The amendments in claims 4 and 6 exclude alkylene-OH containing ethers from the scope of the claims, in accordance with the Examiner's observations in paragraphs 1, 7 and 8 of the office action. The amendments in claims 1, 5, 14 and 16 comply with the Examiner's recommendations regarding the conditions for allowability of claims 1-3, 5, 8-16, and 20-24, as specified in paragraphs 9-11 of the office action. Finally, the Applicant wishes to correct a typographical error in the 5th compound recited in claim 14 as follows: pentabromobenzyl-O-(C₃H₆O)₂ O CH₃ in accordance with correct claim 5.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claim 4 as being improperly dependant for failing to properly limit the scope of the patent protection. The current amendment of claim 4 limits the scope of claim 4 within the scope of amended claim 1, thus eliminating the reason for the objection.

Claims 1, 5, 14, and 16 were objected as being indefinite. The current amendments, incorporating proper Markush language into claims 1 and 5, and excluding -(C₂-C₁₀)alkylene-OH from claims 1 and 16, have addressed all Examiner's objections under 35 USC § 112.

Claim Rejections- 35 USC § 102

The Examiner rejected claim 6 as anticipated by Vollkommer et al. (US 4,119,612), and referred to his previous Office Action in which Vollkommer was stated to

—9—

have disclosed a compound possibly in the ambit of the instant invention. The current amendment in claim 6, canceling (C₂-C₁₀)alkylene-OH, has removed the potential overlap.

Conclusion

The Examiner allowed claims 8-13 and 15 (paragraph 9 of the office action); and the Examiner further set the conditions for allowing claims 2, 3, 5, 14 and 20-24 (paragraph 10 of the office action). In view of the currently filed amendment that address the Examiner's objections and rejections regarding claims 4 and 6 have been addressed, all claims now pending in the application are believed to be ready for allowance.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that these claims be allowed in accordance with the examiner's outstanding suggestions.